

teocular area; antennae slender, scape robust outwardly deflexed and shorter than pedicel; rostrum moderately curved; first and second segments subequal in length and the terminal segment the shortest.

Pronotum unicolourous, transverse behind the middle; anterior lobe little raised, strongly sculptured and medially impressed and posterior lobe strongly rugulose; scutellar spine erect, antero-lateral angles subprominent and posterolateral angles spinously prominent; fore and mid legs subequal in length and hind legs the longest; fore and mid tibiae bear tibial pads; tarsus three segmented and the third segment the longest; legs strongly longly pilose.

Abdomen rounded, segmental sutures prominent; connexivum a little flattened and spotted; abdomen concave above and convex beneath.

**Type information:** Holotype: FEMALE; Locality: Surulitheertham near Cumbum, South India on 9.5.1988 by the author. Allotype and paratypes not known. The holotype is deposited in the collections of Entomology Research Unit, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Palayankottai (N.D. No. 12).

**Etymology:** This species is named *Acanthaspis nigricans* due to its prominent black colour.

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### A NEW SPECIES OF *RHAPHIDOSOMA* (HETEROPTERA-REDUVIIDAE-HARPACTORINAE) FROM WESTERN GHATS<sup>1</sup>

G. RAVICHANDRAN AND D. LIVINGSTONE<sup>2</sup>  
(With a text-figure)

*Rhaphidosoma madukaraiensis* a new species from the Western Ghats has been described and illustrated.

#### INTRODUCTION

The genus *Rhaphidosoma* Amyot & Ser-

ville, is characterized by the elongate head, linear body, aptery, the second rostral segment about five times as long as the first, antennae much shorter than the body and the scutellum obscurely formed. Bergroth (1893) recorded one species, namely *R. atkinsoni*

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from the Oriental region. Subsequently, Distant (1904 & 1910) described another two species, namely *R. tuberculatum* and *R. greeni* from Ethiopian and Oriental regions. The present species is distinctly different from the three already known species and is therefore considered as a new addition to the Oriental species of Harpactorinae.

***Rhaphidosoma madukaraiensis* sp. nov.**

(Fig. 1)

MALE: Length 20 mm, width across the abdomen 2 mm, apterous; elongate; slender; concolourous; griseous; head elongate; anteocular and postocular areas subequal in length; no ocelli; interocular fissure moderately formed; anteocular area behind the antennae dorsally bearing two castaneous elongate markings; antennae far removed from the eyes; antenniferous tubercles rudimentary; postocular area, immediately behind ocelli, tumid throughout, spotted and griseous; antennae concolourous, castaneous; scape a little shorter than the fore femora; pedicel and flagellar segments equal; first joint of the rostrum not reaching even the base of antennae, second joint almost as long as head; eyes piceous; pronotum slightly globose, piceous, spotted almost bare; mesonotum nodule like; metanotum medially carinate, posteriorly obscurely concave; legs castaneous, concolours, abdominal segments obscure; second, third, fourth and fifth segments dorsally with a forked tubercle; behind the fifth segment the abdomen abruptly terminates; (in the males slightly elongated and upwardly covered); connexivum marked as a ridge, ventrally griseous with a median longitudinal line.

This species resembles *Rhaphidosoma tuberculatum* by the presence of the abdominal tubercles but it differs from it by the total absence of thoracic tubercles, cephalic

spine and by the obscure development of scutellum, wing pads and mesonotal median carina.

**Type information:** *Holotype*: MALE: Serial No. 125 Madukkarai, 25-4-87, 350

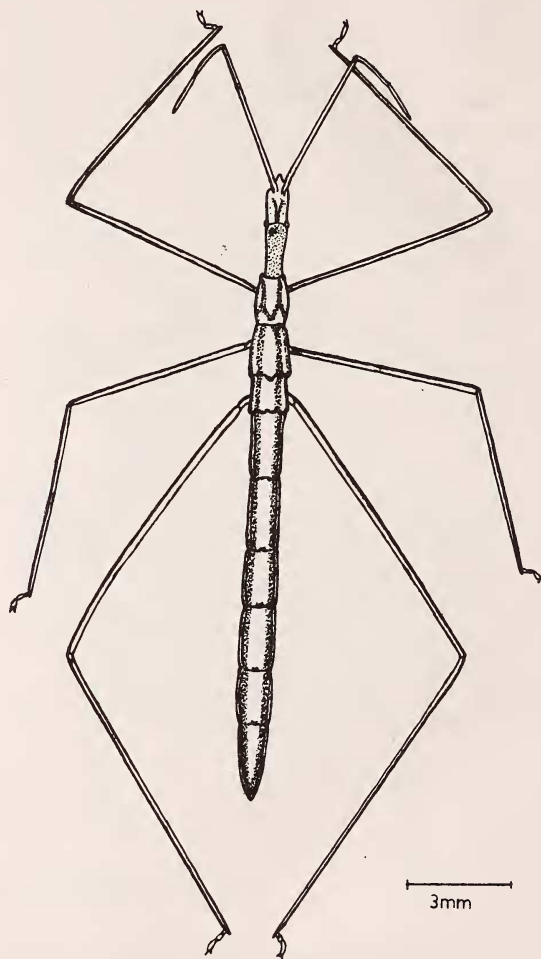


Fig. 1. *Rhaphidosoma madukaraiensis* sp. nov.

MSL, coll. G. Ravichandran. *Paratypes*: MALES bearing same details as that of Holotype, pinned specimens, deposited for the present in the reduviid collection of the Department of Entomology, Fredrick Institute of Plant Protection and

Toxicology, Padappai, S. India to be transferred to National Collection.

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### *PUNTIVUS CRESCENTUS*, A NEW CYPRINID FISH FROM SOUTH INDIA WITH OBSERVATIONS ON THE TAXONOMIC STATUS OF SOME RELATED SPECIES<sup>1</sup>

G.M. YAZDANI<sup>2</sup> AND D.F. SINGH<sup>3</sup>  
(With a text-figure)

Over the years the Western Regional Station, Zoological Survey of India, Pune has been conducting extensive faunistic surveys of different districts of the Western Ghats, both in Maharashtra and Karnataka. As a result, a very rich collection of fishes is available at this station. In the course of working out the unnamed material of fish from Karwar, we came across some specimens of Cyprinid genus *Puntius* which, on closer observation, proved to be new to science. The new species is described below.

*Puntius crescentus* sp. nov.  
(Fig. 1)

**Diagnosis:** Carp minnow with a pair of

maxillary barbels, without serration on the last undivided dorsal ray; 7 scales in the transverse and 22-23 scales in the longitudinal rows. Lateral line incomplete, ending on or before 4th scale; a lateral black spot at the base of caudal fin; a horizontal dark line along the body and a crescentic black band on the dorsal fin.

**Description:** B iii; D iii + 8; P 14; V 9; A ii + 6; C 21; L. l. 23; L. tr. 7.

Head length 3.2 (2.8 - 4.16), body depth 2.8 (2.6-3), predorsal length 1.92 (1.6-2.2), pectoral fin length 4.7 (4-7), ventral fin length 4.7 (3.5-6), all in standard length. Body depth 1.1 (1-1.5), snout length 3.3 (2.6-3.5), eye diameter 2.5 (2-3.5), interorbital width 2.1 (2-2.3), all in head length. Eye 0.7 (0.6- 1) in snout length and 1.1 (1-1.5) in interorbital width.

Body laterally compressed. Dorsal profile a little more convex than the ventral

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